GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1729
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
BHARAT RATNA AWARDS
Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar;Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar;Singh Shri Ganesh;Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of persons who have been conferred `Bharat Ratna` so far;

(b) the criterion conferring the 'Bharat Ratna';

(c) whether a number of persons were proposed for Bharat Ratna Awards during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS(SHRI MANIKRAO H. GAVIT)

(a): A list containing the names of persons who have been conferred 'Bharat Ratna' so far is at Annexure-I.

(b): Bharat Ratna is awarded for exceptional service towards the advancement of Art, Literature and Science, and in recognition of public service of the highest order. Any person without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex is eligible for the award. The decoration may be awarded posthumously. No formal recommendations for this are necessary. The recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister himself to the President. The Prime Minister is free to consult or obtain advice from any one he chooses.

(c) & (d): The names of the persons recommended for Bharat Ratna in the last three years are indicated in the list at Annexure II.